

# Exclusive News by Special Cable From the Capitals of the Old World

## BIRRELL AT HELM IN IRISH POLITICS

May have  
charge of  
Bill for  
Devolution  
or Home  
Rule



Mrs. Birrell

### ERIN'S NEW SECRETARY FRIENDLY TO HER CAUSE

In Election Speeches and in Parliament He Advocated a Liberal Measure of Self-Government for Irishmen

DUBLIN, Feb. 2. THE new Chief Secretary for Ireland comes to his responsible post with well-defined opinions on Irish home rule. During his election campaign he advocated a liberal measure of self-government for this country, and before his Parliamentary career was interrupted by his defeat at Northeast Manchester, had an opportunity, of which he fully availed himself, of placing unequivocally on record his home rule faith. Speaking on the second reading of the Home Rule bill of 1902, he declared that the Irish question had entered upon a new era, and some scheme of home rule—a substantial modification of the act of 1801—was, in his opinion, a plain political necessity. Furthermore, in pointed manner he twitted Mr. Chamberlain, who was listening to him, with his inconsistency. "Whatever the right honorable gentleman might say now," declared Mr. Birrell, "he was one of the fathers of the home rule movement."

Mr. Birrell also believes in self-government for Scotland, his mother's native land.

It is interesting, now that Scottish members and even Ministers are hinting at a revival of the movement for home rule in their midst, to recall the new Irish Secretary's intimate association with the proposal.

In 1894 Mr. Birrell seconded a motion in the House of Commons advocating the establishment of a Scottish legislature. Now that the scope of the Irish Government bill and subsequent measures completing instruments are under discussion in the country, it is opportune to remember that among the matters which Mr. Birrell then suggested was in the province of a Scottish Parliament were law reforms and land reforms, public health, rights of way, liquor traffic, education and even the question of the Scottish Church.

**Scottish Home Rule Bill.** In 1894 Mr. Birrell backed a bill for Scottish home rule, introduced by Mr. Pirie, which never made any headway. While many of the Scottish members are in favor of home rule, they have never been able to rally the masses of their countrymen round the movement. Probably they do not care to do so, since the Scottish members generally get all they want from Parliament. Consequently they never take the trouble to prolong, or even entertain, any of the debates on the affairs of their country.

The only instance in recent years in which Scotch sentiment came into sharp conflict with the government was over the withdrawal of the Scots Greys from the country. On the last day of the session the feelings of the Scotch members were embittered against the House of Lords by their action in excluding their countrymen from the scope of the Mearns School Children bill. Possibly these two grievances may put life into the Scottish home rule movement, which is tame enough at present to have no disposition whatever to credit the suggestions advanced with

apparent seriousness that the Irish Government bill will not be introduced this session. Two reasons were given from different quarters for the postponement of the measure. One was the statement put forward that the Irish members were not satisfied with the draft of the scheme, but, if that were so, it would be a reason for negotiations; the other was based upon the pretext of first disposing of the issue with the House of Lords. It is believed that this was just a feint, not inspired by any authority from Campbell-Bannerman. Why the suggestion should have been put forward it is hard to say, as the Irish response to it must have been a foregone conclusion. The obvious retort would be to urge the government to be courageous in the Irish question, while the Unionist deal in Devolution is fresh in the public mind.

The Irish situation at present suggests a curious parallel between Walter Long and Mr. Birrell. Each Minister, representing a constituency in the city of Bristol, consented to a transfer from another post to the Irish Chief Secretaryship to get the Prime Minister, who was his leader, out of a difficulty. The coincidence is carried further. The immediate predecessors of the Chief Secretary in each case, Mr. Wyndham and Mr. Bryce, resigned owing to the relations which existed between them and Sir A. MacDonnell.

**The Appointment Criticized.** The appointment of Mr. Birrell continues to attract much attention in the Liberal and Unionist press.

The Standard thinks the appointment of Mr. Birrell will certainly have "the undoubted effect of bringing Irish affairs once more into prominence." "The reason," says the journal, "which moved the country to decide against Mr. Gladstone's proposals have lost none of their force, which resides in the bitter and avowed enmity which the Nationalists bear toward England. We do not forget, for instance, that Irishmen in the House of Commons cheered at the announcement of British reverses during the South African War, nor that the British flag was cut down by an Irishman in every circumstance of insult."

• • • The Nationalists are not merely angry with England because they cannot get home rule; they desire home rule because they hate England. If the new bill is, under whatever disguise, actually an instalment of home rule, there must be no kind of compromise with regard to its total rejection.

Appropos of the appointment, the London correspondent of the Liverpool Post remarks that he has the best reason for knowing that the statement that the government scheme for the improvement of Irish administration has failed to win the approval of the Irish leaders is absolutely true. But he understands that efforts will be made so to alter the scheme as to make it acceptable to the Nationalist leaders.

It is not unlikely that Mr. Birrell will have little legislative work next session. His presence, however, at the Irish Office ought to add to the interest and amusement of question time. His occasional controversies with the Nationalists should add to the gaiety of the House.

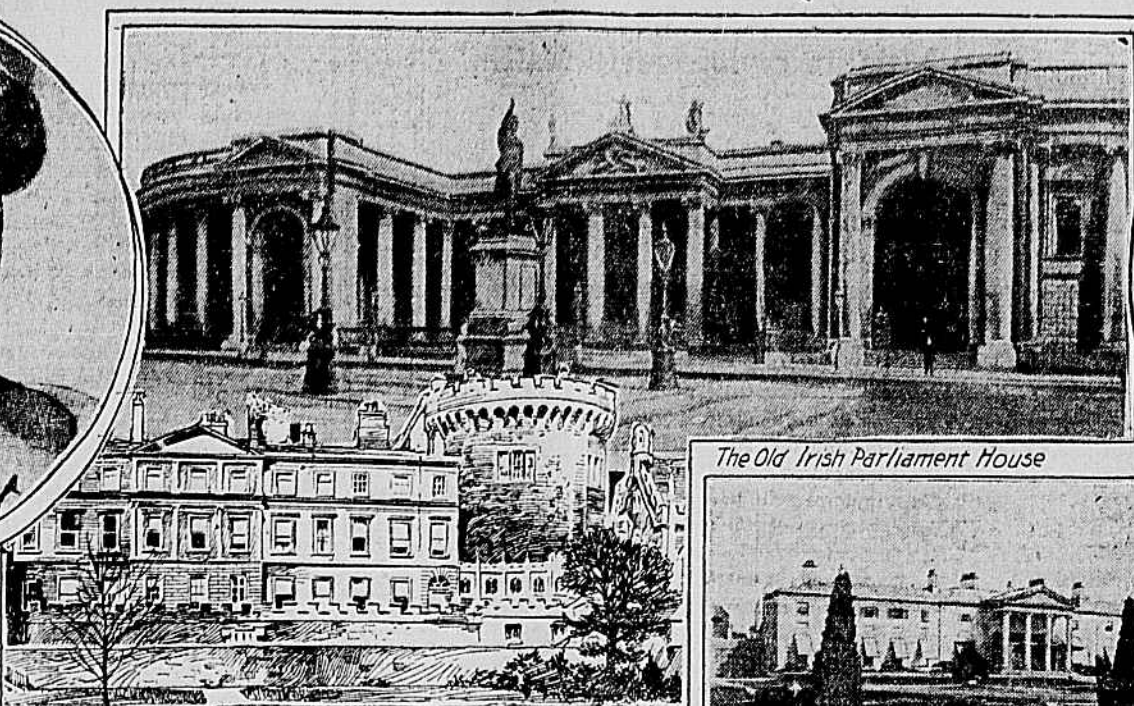
**Disowned Prince Gets Record Salary.** Prince and Princess de Broglie seemed particularly happy at the Tivoli last night, for they signed a contract in London yesterday with the director of the Scala, Paris, to appear there for a month, beginning in May, at a salary of \$3000 a week—a record salary for Paris. There is also a clause in their contract indemnifying them up to a sum of \$10,000 against injury during such time as they shall be in the Scala carrying out their engagement.

Prince de Broglie said last night that he is officially informed that his family will do all in their power to prevent him and the princess from appearing in Paris.

Before appearing there they will both fulfil a month's engagement at the Winter Garden, Berlin, and they are now considering offers from Brussels and Vienna.

"We are seeking engagements on our artistic merits solely," said Prince Robert, "and a letter that I received yesterday from a great musical director in Italy, who addressed me as his 'dear confidant,' gave me more pleasure, I can assure you, than you can possibly imagine."

**Battleship for Sale.** BATHSOUTH, Feb. 2.—The ill-fated battleship *Merou* is to be sold as she lies on the rocky coast of Lunenburg. Formerly of tender, containing conditions of sale and all available particulars, may be obtained from the Director of Naval Contracts at the Admiralty.



The Old Irish Parliament House

Dublin Castle, Residence of Lord Lieutenant

### SUBWAY TRAINS FOR BERLIN'S MAELS

Miniature Electric Cars to Rush Underground at Rate of Thirty Miles Per Hour.

GREAT SAVING IN TIME

BERLIN, Feb. 2. The Berlin postal authorities have decided to construct a miniature underground electric railway from the Central Postoffice to the Potsdamer Bahnhof, the principal railway station, two miles away, solely for the transmission of mail bags.

Considerable technical difficulties have to be overcome, as the River Spree, a deep canal, and two electric tube railways have to be passed in cutting the new line. Subsequently the authorities intend to construct similar subterranean tunnels to connect the Central Postoffice with all the other railway stations. Electric cars containing the mail bags will rush through the tunnels without a stop at thirty miles an hour.

The new system will greatly increase the efficiency of the postoffice. Letters will be delivered two hours earlier than at present. The German authorities regard this method as the only one suitable for use in the future, as the congested state of the street traffic renders high speed of mailcars impossible, and frequently causes serious delays.

### DE WITTE'S INCOME NOT BIG, SAYS FRIEND

Russian Statesman Received Only \$9500 for Negotiating Peace Treaty and Spent \$25,000.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 2.

In order to destroy the impression that Count Witte has accumulated vast wealth from his government service, one of his friends has published an account of his income and expenditure in a newspaper which is widely read among the poor here.

The writer states that Count Witte's actual salary from the government at the present moment is only \$1000, which he receives as a member of the Council of the Empire. He received \$250,000 from the Imperial treasury while he was president of the Council of Ministers, but this sum was largely consumed in expenses necessary to that position.

Apart from this, he has only \$75,000, which is his wife's dowry. He received only \$5000 for his mission to the United States to negotiate the Portsmouth treaty, while his actual expenses on that occasion amounted to \$25,000.

The writer's communication concludes with a description of Countess Witte's charities. She gives 250 dinners daily to the poor of her district where they live, besides free supplies of boots and warm clothing.

**Love No Incentive for Girls to Marry.** Several Reasons Are Urged by French Women Who Desire to Get Husbands.

PARIS, Feb. 2. A French statistician has been devoting considerable time recently to discovering the reasons for which women are anxious to get married.

His inquiries included questions addressed to ninety-five girls between the ages of 15 and 17, asking them why they wished to get married. The result was as follows:

Five wished to marry in order that they might go out unchaperoned.

Ten because they would then be able to amuse themselves.

Five because their husbands would enable them to travel.

Seven so that they would own their own homes.

Four looked forward to possessing a family.

Three did not wish to marry at all, while sixty-one were anxious to be married, but could give no specific reason why.

Not one of the girls suggested love as a motive for matrimony.



Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland

BIRRELL AND HIS NEW SPHERE OF DUTIES

### WOMAN INTERPRETS THOUGHTS ON PIANO

Plays Any Piece Named to Her Assistant by Any Person in Audience.

A REMARKABLE FEAT

LONDON, Feb. 2.

A thought-reading performance was introduced at the Hippodrome last night by a clever pair of performers styling themselves Trilby and Svengali, which is calculated to arouse as much controversy as the puzzling display by the Zancigis at the Alhambra.

When they had concluded their "turn" last evening, a gentleman rose in the auditorium and said that he was prepared to give \$500 to any London hospital if the Zancigis succeeded in duplicating it.

Trilby is a charming young woman attired in evening dress. She is seated at a piano on the stage, while Svengali, a dark, middle-aged man, enters the auditorium.

Svengali receives from the audience the names of any musical pieces they care to specify, and immediately he is given the name Trilby plays and sings the number.

The remarkable part of the proceedings is that Svengali does not once turn his face to the stage, nor does he seemingly communicate with Trilby in any visible way. Certainly he does not utter a word until the act is finished.

Trilby was not once in fault in her rendition of the numbers suggested by the audience, and she says she is able to play and sing in a moment any one of some 500 musical numbers, embracing the compositions of all nations.

### OLD MAN DEFEATS TWO BURGLARS BOLD

Despite Twenty-Two Wounds on Head He Clings to Them Until Assistance Comes.

PARIS, Feb. 2. An extraordinary account of the desperate and successful struggle of a man of 55 with two burglars was given at the Assize Courts here yesterday.

M. van der Nest, who lives next door to Baron Rothschild at Boulogne-sur-Mer, was sleeping alone in his house, when he was awakened by the noise made by two burglars. In spite of his great age, he got out of bed, snatched up two revolvers and met the burglars at the top of the staircase.

The old man fired, wounding one of the burglars. He then flung the other weapon in the face of the other man, and immediately dashed at him. In the course of the desperate struggle which followed the old man was badly knocked about, but when neighbors, who heard the noise, arrived they found him sitting on a burglar and holding the other down by the hair. M. van der Nest had twenty-two severe bruises on his head and face, inflicted with a "life preserver."

In court yesterday the old man, who was warmly complimented by the judge, declared that he suffered no ill effects from his encounter. Except for a little deafness, he had never been better in his life. "I think the exercise did me good," he added.

### MARSEILLES AT MERCY OF DARING THIEVES

Robbers Do Not Hesitate to Use Revolvers if Their Victims Resist.

ALL YOUNG CRIMINALS ARE NOT DISAPPOINTED

MARSEILLES, Feb. 2.

Highway robbers infest the streets here and are becoming more daring every day. Mme. Savon, the wife of a well-known merchant, was robbed of her earrings in a busy street here yesterday evening. Another woman, Mme. Angst, has been victimized in the same manner. The robbers work swiftly, and do not hesitate to tear away women's earrings by force. Two or three other thefts of this brutal kind have occurred.

The neighborhood of the Quai des Anglais is unsafe for passengers. English sailors and steamship passengers returning to their ships at night are frequently robbed in spite of police vigilance. The thieves "hold up" carriages and rob the occupants. If the latter resist, the thieves use their revolvers.

The centre of the city is almost as unsafe, and the numerically weak police are unable to prevent outrages. Several travelers and tourists arriving by train in the evening have been set upon and robbed.

All these crimes are the work of young men of from 15 to 25 years of age. It is unfortunate that even when they are caught they receive only light sentences from Magistrates and Judges.

### FATAL CAROUSALS FROM SMUGGLER'S MISTAKE

Methylated Spirits Taken for Vodka Brings Death to Eight Merry-makers.

VIENNA, Feb. 2. A smuggler's mistake has caused the death of eight peasants at the village of Styremeszyce, in Austrian Poland.

The Bürgermeister of the village invited several of his friends to celebrate his birthday, and set before them a barrel of spirits which a friend of his had smuggled in from Russia.

The peasants remarked on the strong flavor of their drinks, but had become accustomed to the crudest and most fiery potato spirit they did not hesitate to drink the health and the bride and bridegroom in deep potations.

The next day eight of them were dead, and, on inquiry being made, it was discovered that the smuggler had obtained a barrel of methylated spirits instead of the vodka he imagined himself to be smuggling.

### THIEVES AND THUGS NOW ISSUE JOURNAL

Is Written by Hand and Passed Along the Army of "Apache" Terrorists.

PARIS, Feb. 2. The dreaded Parisian "Apaches," as the hoodlums are called here, have a paper of their own. It is written by hand, says the Humanite, and is passed on from one "Apache" to another.

Among the amusing features is the "fashionous column." "Collars and ties," says the journal, "are still little worn by well-dressed gentlemen, and the silk 'balloon cap' has been replaced by the motor 'cap.' Tatting is still fashionable. Silent shoes, with rubber soles, are much in vogue."

The "society column" contains news of the various doings of well-known "Apaches" in the penal settlements.

### REALISM ON STAGE OF PARIS THEATRE

The Grande Guignol Playhouse, Where People Go to Get Painful Impressions.

PARIS, Feb. 2.

A play produced at the Grande Guignol Theatre eclipses in its horror "The Campden Wonder," which is exciting so much comment in London.

It is called "Blind," and is by Carl Hellen and Paul d'Estoc. A blind man has turned out of doors his son by a first wife because he suspects him to be in love with his second wife. The son returns, and is having a stormy love scene with his stepmother, when his father comes into the room.

The woman and her stepson remain motionless, and the blind man hears nothing, but he sits down just in front of the only door leading out of the room. He talks to his wife about his son, and from her nervousness guesses that something is wrong. "There is somebody in this room," he says, and he insists on his wife preceding him out of the door, which he locks behind him.

The son tries to get away, but his blind father, who was listening outside, rushes in with a revolver and shoots. He misses, but his shot brings in an old servant, who involuntarily calls out the son's name. "Then my suspicions were founded on truth!" cries the unhappy father, and he shoots himself.

The piece, which was admirably acted, made a very painful impression, but it is in order to receive painful impressions that people go to the Grande Guignol.

**Memorial to Captain John Smith.** LONDON, Feb. 2.—General Baden-Powell has given a bust of his ancestor, Captain John Smith, the founder of Virginia, to Louth School, where Smith was educated.



Princess Helene of Serbia



Duke of the Abruzzi

### PROSPECTIVE ROYAL BRIDE AND GROOM

The engagement of the Duke of the Abruzzi to Princess Helene of Serbia has just been announced. The prospective bridegroom is a cousin of the King of Italy, and is world famous as an explorer. The bride-elect is the only daughter of the King of Serbia.

### LABORER WINS \$100,000 AND RAGPICKER \$20,000

Three Other Persons in Different Parts of France Claim to Hold Lucky Number.

PARIS, Feb. 2. An agricultural laborer named Joseph Sadon, of Tintury, in the department of Nièvre, is reported to have won the \$100,000 prize in the Ormeson Consumptive Hospital lottery. His two tickets cost him 40 cents.

Tintury is a small village of 700 inhabitants, so remote from railways and telegraphs that newspaper reporters who have gone to interview the owner of the winning ticket have not yet been able to reach the place. Meanwhile, three other persons in various parts of France have telegraphed that they hold the winning number.

In the Lille Consumptive Institute's lottery a ragpicker named Remy, who lives in a tumble-down hovel at Aubervilliers, has just won a prize of \$20,000.

### BERLIN BELLES ROB CHARITY BAZAARS

Astounding Revelations of Gross Frauds Perpetrated by Leaders of Society.

ONE WOMAN WHIPPED

BERLIN, Feb. 2.

Astounding revelations are being made of fraud committed by society women who make a practice of taking a prominent part in bazaars and other charity functions.

It is shown that these "hyenas of charity," as they are called here, have not only victimized gatherings legitimately organized, but that they have been in the habit of engineering theatrical fates, where they sold cups of coffee at 6s. and 10s. each, and other articles of refreshment at equally extravagant prices.

In one case a woman sold kisses on the bare arm for \$2.50, on the neck for \$5, and on the cheek for \$150. Those who were shocked by this and other still more astonishing devices for obtaining money were told that everything was justifiable in the cause of charity.

Unfortunately, further revelations have made it clear that many of these nominally charitable ladies appropriated large sums of the money obtained in this way. One society belle, a prominent figure at all charitable fetes, systematically appropriated all gold coins paid to her, and only handed over silver coins to the treasurer.

Recently one woman, detected in the act of stealing money, was publicly assaulted at a charitable fete by a woman whose indignation carried her away. The sight of one fashionably-dressed lady whipping another gorgeously arrayed dame at an assembly attended by 200 persons created great excitement, and led to persistent inquiries as to the cause of the encounter.

Another "hyena of charity" was detected in the act of pocketing money, and was compelled to disgorge her spoils on the spot, in the full view of forty or fifty contemptuous spectators. She was searched there and then, and gold coins were extracted from her pockets, from the folds of her dress, and even from her dainty slippers. Then she was driven from the building amid loud hisses and hoots.

**Curious Sanctuary for Hare.** LONDON, Feb. 2.—A hare which was startled by a motor car, about a mile and a half out of Wimborne Minster, kept ahead of the car and ran into the town. Here several dogs, boys and men joined in the chase, but the hare was too nimble for them and sought sanctuary in the grounds of the Ursuline Convent.



Princess Helene of Serbia



Duke of the Abruzzi

### MURDERER KILLED BY DYING VICTIM

Released Convict Has Revenge on Betrayer; But at Forfeit of His Life.

PARIS, Feb. 2. There was a savage fight between two Apaches last night in the Rue de Grenelle, in the course of which they were both killed.

Alphonse Bouille came out of prison yesterday, after two years of hard labor, and forthwith began to hunt over Paris for his inmate friend, Leon Jourdain, who had betrayed him to the police. He met him in the Rue de Grenelle, and at once shot him mortally.

Two policemen arrested the murderer, but while they were struggling with him the dying man crawled on his hands and knees behind them and stabbed Bouille five times in the back, breaking his blade off in the wound as he fell back, dead, in the gutter.

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### PRIEST HAS NARROW ESCAPE FROM MADMAN

Rushes Upon Him With a Large Knife, But Would-Be Victim Escapes.

LONDON, Feb. 2.

Father Carr, a Roman Catholic priest, had a narrow escape from death during a terrible encounter with a lunatic in Dewsbury Union Workhouse.

The reverend gentleman and his choir had visited the institution for the purpose of giving an entertainment, and while they were partaking of refreshments the head nurse, introduced by Mr. Carr, the party to assist in putting a straitjacket on a demented patient, who had been under observation in the infirmary.

While they were assisting the madman broke away his secured possession of a large knife which he had previously secured in a locker. Rushing at the priest, he cried: "He's come for my soul, and he shan't have it!" Fortunately, the reverend gentleman was alert, and escaped through a door at the opposite end of the ward to that through which the terrified nurses had rushed.

Father Carr turned the key in the lock, just as the madman threw his whole weight against the door in the hope of breaking it down. At this stage a porter entered through the other door, and the demented man rushed at him and slashed at him with the knife, badly injuring his hands. Three of the twenty-four beds in the ward were occupied, and the patients were relieved to see the man disappear.

Although attired in a shirt only, the lunatic scaled a high wall and got into the open, fortunately losing his knife in his flight. He took a course over the fields to the main road, where he boarded one of the trams, and after a short struggle was captured.